

# VOCA/VAWA SUBGRANTEE INFORMATION SESSION

Grants Management Branch  
Kentucky Justice & Public Safety Cabinet

KY Transportation Cabinet Auditorium  
Frankfort, KY  
August 28, 2014

# Agenda

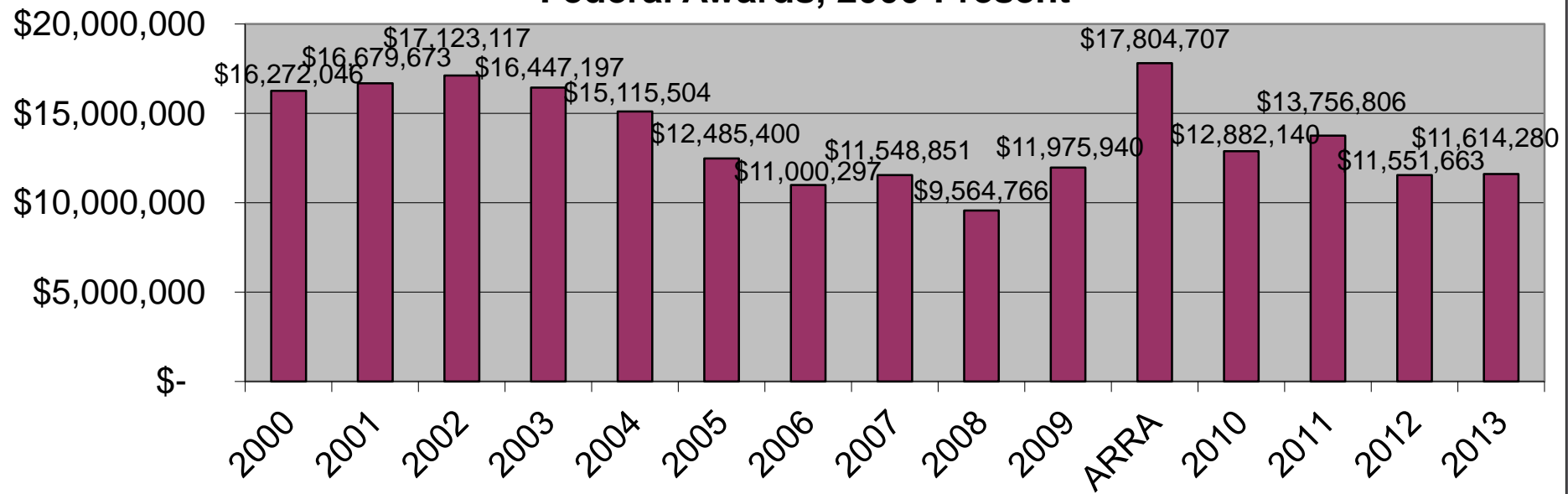
- ▣ 10 A.M.-10:15 A.M.: Welcome and Introductions
- ▣ 10:15 A.M.- 10: 30 A.M.: The Future of Grant Funding
- ▣ 10:30 A.M.- 12 P.M.: Improving Your Application Narrative and Budget
- ▣ 12 P.M.-1 P.M.: Lunch ON YOUR OWN
- ▣ 1 P.M.- 1:30 P.M.: Improving Your Application (Cont'd)
- ▣ 1:30P.M.- 1:45 P.M.: What is changing in the grant process?
- ▣ 1:45 P.M.-2:00 P.M.: Break
- ▣ 2 P.M.- 2:30 P.M.: Large Group Question and Answer Session
- ▣ 2:30 P.M. -3:30 P.M.: Individual Questions/Meeting with GMB Staff

# Grant Trends



# Grant Trends

**Kentucky Justice & Public Safety Cabinet  
Federal Awards, 2000-Present**



- ▣ 2014 VAWA – \$2M: About the same as 2013, but subject to PREA penalty and additional Courts category restrictions
- ▣ 2014 VOCA - \$6M, slightly more than 2013

# Grant Trends

## Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

- ▣ Awarded to all states and territories on a formula and competitive basis by U.S. Department of Justice from federal criminal fines. There is a funding cap of \$745M, and a balance of over \$9B . . . that's a "b" for "billion"
- ▣ Funds a variety of grants programs. The two largest and most familiar in Kentucky are Crime Victim Assistance and Crime Victim Compensation. Another portion funds our State Victim Assistance Academy
- ▣ VOCA Assistance grants primarily provide funding for direct services to victims of crime. Priority is given to projects that provide services to victims of child abuse, sexual assault, and domestic violence
- ▣ Kentucky funds approximately 65 programs across the state each year in state agencies, local governments, and private not-for-profit organizations
- ▣ Kentucky's annual VOCA program solicitation opens around the first of May and applications must be submitted around mid-June. One year award cycles, October 1-September 30



# Grant Trends

## Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

- ▣ Funds are appropriated through the regular budget process and awarded to all states and territories on a formula and competitive basis by U.S. Department of Justice
- ▣ Funds a variety of grant programs. GMB refers to the funds we award simply as “VAWA,” but that grant program’s proper name is VAWA STOP. Some of the others most familiar in Kentucky are the Sexual Assault Services Program, Grants to Encourage Arrest, and Rural Domestic Violence Program
- ▣ VAWA STOP grants may be used to provide funding to state agencies and local government, private not-for-profit organizations, law enforcement, and prosecutors that offer victim services programs to adult female victims of domestic violence and sexual assault
- ▣ Kentucky funds approximately 45 programs across the state each year in state agencies, local governments, and private not-for-profit organizations
- ▣ Priority is given to victim advocacy services (30%), prosecution (25%), law enforcement (25%), courts (5%), and discretionary programs (15%)
- ▣ Kentucky’s annual VAWA program solicitation opens around the first of September and applications must be submitted around mid-October. One year award cycles, January 1 – December 31

# What's Changing in the Grant Process



# What's Changing

## Long Term Changes at the Federal Level:

- ▣ Expanded Conditions
- ▣ Restrictive Policies
- ▣ Penalties
- ▣ EBP - Evidence Based Programs
- ▣ Increased Accountability
- ▣ Strategic Planning
- ▣ OMB's Omni Circular
- ▣ Sequestration
- ▣ Inter-Agency Policy Initiatives



# What's Changing

## Expected VOCA Guidelines:

- ▣ In August 2013 OVC published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Federal Register that will ultimately revise the 1997 VOCA Guidelines
- ▣ Changes to calculation and federal funds distribution, resulting in *proposed* increase in funds to programs/states
- ▣ Expanded program areas, including incarcerated victims, expanded legal services, transitional housing
- ▣ Mandated periodic competitive applications

# What's Changing

## 2013 VAWA Guidelines:

- ▣ VAWA was re-authorized in 2013, with many changes affecting services, programs, and administration
- ▣ More refined definitions (e.g., “victim service provider,” “culturally specific”)
- ▣ Expanded Implementation Plan requirements
- ▣ 7 additional purpose areas
- ▣ Expanded allocation requirements
- ▣ Match limitations
- ▣ Sexual Assault Exam Billing

# What's Changing

## So, what does this mean for me . . . .?

- ▣ More Funds for New Programs
- ▣ Expansion of Program Areas
- ▣ Periodic Competitive Applications
  - More predictable funding from year-to-year
  - Fewer annual applications
  - Standardized goal language for major program areas
- ▣ Revised Application Scoring
  - Application Scores will become MUCH more important
  - Additional trainings offered to applicants and reviewers in 2015
  - Targeted scoring incentives for policy priorities (strategic planning, geographic diversity, EBPs)

Grantsmanship = Salesmanship -- why should we buy your proposal instead of the other good ones? And, there are always LOTS of good ones.

Don't just chase \$; can you link the proposed project to your strategic plan? If not, you should re-examine pursuit. However, there are other, less tangible, yet no less valid, reasons such as political priorities of administration or others, brownie points with funders, etc.

Get necessary buy-in from participants and constituents up front. If funds are awarded, you will be signing a contract.

All grant funds are becoming more competitive.

Make your application interesting -- can you imagine reading 100 of these applications? If your directions and page limits allow, use graphics, diagrams, attachments, but be judicious.

Take advantage of all the tools given to you -- literature references, vendor conferences, contact people, etc.

## FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS!

If the RFP gives you headings, use them.

Get final product a hard edit, don't accept, "yeah, looks good"; it's not good for your grant.

Check your spelling!

Provide calculation methods for all costs  
Check your math!

Finally, the good news is you got the grant, the bad news is you got the grant.  
😊



# Deep Thoughts . . . about Grants . . .

**15 Minute Break**



# Group Q & A